



PUBLIC NOTICE

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COMMISSION LIFTS FREEZE ON NEW SATELLITE LICENSE APPLICATIONS

Report No. SPB-193

On April 23, 2003, the Commission adopted the *First Space Station Reform Order*, substantially revising its satellite licensing process.¹ In that Order, the Commission adopted a freeze on new satellite license applications, other than Direct Broadcast Satellite (DBS) and Digital Audio Radio Satellite (DARS) satellites. This freeze was to remain in effect until a summary of the *First Report and Order* was published in the Federal Register.² In this Public Notice, the Commission announces that a summary of the *First Report and Order* has been published in the Federal Register, the freeze has been lifted, and applications for new satellites may now be filed.

We remind applicants that all satellite applications -- including those for new satellites and for modifications of licensed satellites -- must be filed electronically using the International Bureau Filing System (IBFS). New Ka-band applicants are reminded that current Ka-band licensees had until August 26, 2003, at 11:59:59 PM, to file a modification requesting an orbital location reassignment as specified in a *Public Notice* released on August 12, 2003, as clarified on August 15, 2003 and revised on August 22, 2003.³ We will consider any new Ka-band satellite applications for any of the locations listed in the *August Public Notices* only after we consider Ka-band modification applications filed prior to August 26. Thus, any new Ka-band satellite applications are filed at the applicants' own risk.

For further information, contact Fern Jarmulnek at (202) 418-0751.

¹ Amendment of the Commission's Space Station Licensing Rules and Policies, *First Report and Order*, IB Docket No. 02-34, 18 FCC Rcd 10760, 10889 (2003) (*First Space Station Reform Order*).

² *First Space Station Reform Order*, 18 FCC Rcd at 10798 (para. 89).

³ International Bureau Explains Procedure for Ka-band GSO-like Satellite Applications, *Public Notice*, DA 03-2630 (rel. Aug. 12, 2003) (*August 12 Public Notice*); Clarification, *Public Notice*, DA 03-2657 (rel. Aug. 15, 2003); International Bureau Revises Procedure for Ka-band GSO-Like Satellite Applications, *Public Notice*, DA 03-2727 (rel. Aug. 22, 2003).